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Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°./Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°.

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 $\label{local-policy} An melder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire \\ LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES INC.$

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above–mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☐ abstract

☐ title

The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

NONE



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REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.

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Application Number EP 02 25 5820

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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

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ABSTRACT / ZUSAMMENFASSUNG / ABREGE

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A radio telecommunications system is provided operative to communicate digital data symbols with multilevel-coded modulation using higher than quadrature phase shift keying (QPSK) in a multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) transmit environment. The system comprises a transmitter (1) and a receiver (2).

The transmitter (1) contains a means to split the data into a first block of more significant bits of symbols and a second block of less significant bits of symbols which are then separately encoded (a,b) and interleaved (c,c') for modulation by a modulator (d). This transmitter performs multilevel-coded modulation to provide a layered encoding scheme that enables unequal error protection for the transmitted bits.

The receiver (2) is operative to receive the multilevel-coded modulated signal via multiple-transmit antennas by iterative determination of soft estimates of bits followed by a hard decision as to what bit was intended. The receiver (2) comprises a first processor (3) operative to provide first soft estimates of bits of the received signal, and a second processor (13) operative to decode the first soft estimates and to provide second soft estimates of the bits. The receiver (2) also comprises a first combiner (11') operative to provide adapted first soft estimates to the second processor (13), the adapted first soft estimates of each bit being dependent upon the respective first soft estimate and a respective previous first soft estimate. The receiver (2) also comprises a second combiner (17) operative to provide third soft estimates back to the first processor for subsequent further decoding, the third soft estimates of each bit being dependent upon the respective second soft estimate and a respective previous second soft estimate.